ligand. In such a case, the binding capacities of the respective species correspond to their molar amounts. Other reaction ratios are, however, also possible. For example, the immobilized ligand may be capable of binding more than one analyte-specific receptor.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-2, 4-8, 11, 16, 19-26, 29-30, and 32-38, with the following amended claims.

1. (Twice Amended) A method of determining an analyte in a sample comprising the steps of:

a) contacting the sample with an amount of a receptor which binds specifically to the analyte to form an analyte/receptor complex, and which is in excess of that required to bind all analyte in the sample,

b) isolating on a solid phase a specified fraction of receptor contacted with the analyte, including analyte/receptor complex and unreacted receptor,

c) detecting the amount of analyte/receptor complex in said isolated specified fraction, and

d) from the detected amount of analyte/receptor complex, determining the concentration of analyte in the sample.

C3

2. (Amended) The method according to claim 1 in which the sample has a concentration of greater than 1 nmole/litre.

Sub D2

C4

4. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein isolating said specified fraction of receptor contacted with the sample on the solid phase comprises providing a solid phase having binding sites incorporated thereon for the receptor, and after contacting the sample, or an aliquot thereof, with a liquid phase containing the receptor, binding said specified fraction of receptor to the solid phase.

C5

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein all of the receptor contacted with the sample has reactivity towards said binding sites on the solid phase, and receptor-binding capacity of the solid phase is less than solid-phase binding capacity of receptor contacted with the sample.

Sub D3

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 4, wherein only a specified fraction of receptor contacted with the sample has reactivity towards said binding sites on the solid phase.

Sub D4

C6

7. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein isolating said specified fraction of receptor on the solid

phase comprises contacting the sample with a specified amount of receptor, a specified fraction of which amount is immobilized to said solid phase and the remaining amount of receptor being in a liquid phase.

D4

C4

8. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the receptor comprises a first part that binds specifically to the analyte, and a second part that binds to the solid phase.

concld

C7

11. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ratio between said isolated fraction of receptor and receptor contacted with the sample is in a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

C8

16. (Twice Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the specific binding pair is biotin-avidin or biotin-strepavidin.

sub D4

C9

19. (Amended) A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a specified amount of a receptor reagent having a first part which binds specifically to the analyte, and a solid phase member having immobilized thereon a ligand which binds specifically to a second part of the receptor, wherein ~~the~~ receptor-binding capacity of said ligand immobilized on the solid

phase member is less than ligand-binding capacity of said specified amount of receptor reagent.

20. (Twice Amended) The test kit according to claim 19, wherein the ratio between receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on the solid phase and ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is in the range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

21. (Twice Amended) The test kit according to claim 19 or 20, further comprising a lateral flow membrane strip having said receptor-binding ligand immobilized in or on a reaction zone of the membrane and having said analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in or on the membrane upstream of the reaction zone.

22. (Amended) A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a specified amount of a receptor reagent having a first part which binds specifically to the analyte, wherein only a specified fraction of receptor reagent has a second part which binds to a specific ligand, and a solid phase member having said specific ligand immobilized thereon.

23. (Twice Amended) The test kit according to claim 22, wherein the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor and analyte-specific receptor is in a range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

C12 Sub D9

24. (Twice Amended) The test kit according to claim 22 or 23, further comprising a lateral flow membrane strip having said receptor-binding ligand immobilized in or on a reaction zone of the membrane and having said analyte-binding receptor reagent dissolvably pre-deposited in or on the membrane upstream of the reaction zone.

Sub D10 C13

25. (Amended) A test kit for determining an analyte in a sample, comprising a first specified amount of an analyte-binding receptor reagent, and a solid phase member having immobilized thereon a second specified amount of said analyte-binding receptor reagent.

C14

26. (Twice Amended) The test kit according to claim 25, wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor reagent immobilized to the solid phase, and said first and second amounts of analyte-binding receptor reagent together is in range of from about 1:2 to about 1:1000.

29. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ratio between said isolated fraction of analyte-binding receptor and analyte-binding receptor contacted with the sample is in the range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

C15

30. (Amended) The method according to claim 9, wherein the ratio between said isolated fraction of analyte-binding receptor and analyte-binding receptor contacted with the sample is no more than about 1:20.

32. (Amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein said lateral flow matrix is a membrane strip.

sub D13

33. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 20, wherein the ratio between the receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on the solid phase and the ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is in the range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

C16

34. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 20, wherein the ratio between the receptor-binding capacity of ligand immobilized on

the solid phase and the ligand-binding capacity of the analyte-specific receptor reagent is no more than about 1:20.

35. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 23, wherein the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor and analyte-specific receptor is in the range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

36. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 23, wherein the ratio between ligand-binding analyte-specific receptor and analyte-specific receptor is no more than about 1:20.

D13

37. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 26, wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor substance immobilized to the solid phase, and said first and second amounts of analyte-binding receptor reagent together is in the range of from about 1:5 to 1:100.

C16 cancel

38. (Amended) The test kit according to claim 26, wherein the ratio between said second amount of analyte-binding receptor substance immobilized to the solid phase, and said first and second amounts of analyte-binding receptor reagent together is no more than about 1:20.